Brian Gates

Staff Software Engineer

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GitHub: https://github.com/brian-gates

Summary

Building mission critical software and tools with web technologies since 2006.

Skills

Expert: TypeScript, React, JavaScript, CSS, HTML, Node.js, RESTful APIs, Git, UI, UX, A11y, Express, CI/CD, Next.js

Intermediate: C#, C++, Electron, GraphQL, MySQL, Neo4j, Nest.js, OAuth, PHP, PostgreSQL, Python

Experience

Yardzen - Staff Software Engineer

March 2024 - present

- Led the replatforming from WordPress to Next.js, integrated Contentful for seamless content updates, and developed key marketing projects, contributing to significant user engagement and conversion rates

- Replatformed from slow WordPress to blazing-fast Next.js, deploying on CloudRun via GitHub Actions and Nx

- Integrated Contentful, enabling non-engineering teams to create and update pages independently, reducing the release cycle from weeks to hours

- Developed Lowe's Partnership page for a 750k email blast campaign, resulting in 3.6k visitors and 109 add-to-carts in two weeks

- Created Contractor Connect marketing funnel, generating 200 leads and a 9% conversion rate in the first month

- Established a Design System with design and marketing, including Iconography and Colors pages, leading to a more consistent user experience

- Created a Storybook for documenting implemented components, leading to increased re-use by Product and Design teams

- Ensured accessibility compliance by implementing best practices and adhering to WCAG guidelines

- Trained junior team members and created extensive documentation for knowledge transfer

Hadrian - Senior Software Engineer

Oct 2023 - Feb 2024

- Helped build and release version two of Hadrian's internal workflow management software that guides all aspects of the factory's execution to build high precision parts for aerospace and aeronautics

- Built visual Node-based workflow editor with Xyflow (formerly React Flow)

- Crafted responsive UIs from Figma designs in Next.js/React with TailwindCSS, Radix, and ShadUI

- Created type-safe forms with helpful validations using Zod, React-hook-forms, and TypeScript

- Ensured system observability by working with infrastructure team to integrate Next.js and Datadog for visibility into spans, traces, errors, logs, and session replays

- Collaborated with backend teams to negotiate API endpoints' proto specifications

- Gathered feedback from users to implement features and improvements

Dollar Shave Club - Software Engineering Manager

Feb 2020 - April 2023